

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. As a result of the expansion of the mine at Mackatica, in Serbia, Yugoslavia will reportedly become one of the world's chief producers of molybdenum. Excavations, started in 1947, should be completed by 1951. A tunnel, some five kilometers long, is being bored into the side of the mountain where the mine is located and will be connected with the mine itself by means of a perpendicular shaft which will be sunk to a depth of 400 meters. So far, only 1,500 meters of the gallery have been excavated, and work is progressing rapidly on the shaft. The work of the past two years has already produced enough molybdenum to meet national requirements for a period of ten years.
2. In addition to the excavation work, efforts have been made to insure the channeling of water from the valley to meet the requirements of an electric plant which will be constructed at the bottom of the shaft and which will produce the required power to operate all the equipment of the mine.
3. In addition to the industrial unit at Strnisce, which given the proximity of the hydroelectric plants on the Drava River, has illimitable possibilities of development, the construction of a new and large aluminum factory is planned for Mostar, in Hercegovina.
4. This new factory will not only be able to exploit the electrical energy derived from the largest Yugoslav hydroelectric plant, currently in the final stages of completion at Jablanica on the Neretva River, but will also have the advantage of working the bauxite extracted from the very rich deposits in the immediate vicinity. Only preparatory works have been carried out so far but construction work reportedly will be started in the very near future.
5. The first deposits of asbestos in Yugoslavia were exploited in 1947. Since that time, numerous teams of geologists have intensified their search for asbestos deposits, exploring the rich mineral basins of Bosnia. As a result of further exploration they have also discovered other very important deposits in several regions, among which some are in Macedonia and Montenegro.
6. Although current production of asbestos in Yugoslavia is small because of

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the lack of proper mining equipment, the discovery of additional deposits will reportedly place Yugoslavia at the head of asbestos producers in Europe and will enable her not only to meet her own requirements but also to export this mineral.

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